

File
10/17/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Black et al.

Serial No. 09/276,056

Filed: 03/25/1999

Examiner: Fleurantin, J.

Art Unit: 2172

For: **FAULT TOLERANCE FOR NETWORK ACCOUNTING ARCHITECTURE**

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

OCT 02 2002

Sir:

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED 10 APRIL 2002 Technology Center 2100

OK
10 ENTER
JHF
11/29/02

In response to the office action mailed 10 April 2002, Applicant offers the following amendments and remarks. If any fees are required in association with this response, the Director is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account 50-1732, and consider this a petition therefor.

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Data collection systems are used to collect information from network traffic flow on a network. These data collection systems are designed to capture one type of network traffic from one source type and deliver the data to one application type such as a billing application.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The accounting process 14 enables users such as an Enterprise or an Internet Service Provider to maintain an existing accounting configuration. Information sources can include network traffic flow, RADIUS accounting data, RMON/RMON2 data, SNMP-based data, and other sources of network usage data. The accounting process 14 collects data via the data collector layer 16 from multiple disparate sources and produces a new type of composite records. These new composite records result in new information which provides a source for network accounting, billing, management, capacity planning, and so forth.--

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